



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133  
(617) 725-4000

**DEVAL L. PATRICK**  
GOVERNOR

April 10, 2014

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am filing for your consideration legislation entitled "An Act to Promote Growth and Opportunity."

Guided by our growth strategy of committing to education, innovation and infrastructure, we have made the investments necessary to stimulate growth across the Commonwealth. Our economy is strong and is growing faster than the national economy. We must continue to build upon the foundation that we have established with further investment and commitment to reforms we know are successful to ensure long-term growth and economic opportunity in Massachusetts.

The bill I am filing will provide new tools and training so our workforce is prepared to meet the needs of employers, invests in our Gateway Cities to promote development across the entire state, and provides incentives to create jobs and stimulate the economy.

Among other things this bill:

- Establishes grants to finance the training of students and workers for middle skill careers in advanced manufacturing and IT.
- Provides incentives to companies that create a significant number of new jobs without making large capital expenditures;
- Creates a new program to assist skilled and creative foreign students to extend their time as residents of — and budding entrepreneurs in — the Commonwealth;

H04217  
4:37pm  
4-10-14

- Funds programs to support entrepreneurship education and mentoring, and recapitalizes the state's vehicles for investing in small businesses, venture capital and innovation.
- Places authority for granting liquor licenses in the hands of municipalities to allow local communities to make responsible decisions regarding their economic development and growth.

I urge your prompt consideration and enactment of this bill and I look forward to working with you on this effort.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seval", followed by a large, stylized flourish or loop.